

Application No. 09/756,563
Response to Office Action of May 3, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) In a communications network having a plurality of ~~users~~ devices competing for network resources, a method for allocating the network resources comprising the steps of:

~~determining a set of distribution parameter associated with each of said plurality of users;~~
~~transmitting receiving at a network resource manager, from each of said plurality of~~
~~devices users to a network resource manager, a request for network access, and an estimated set~~
~~of a first set of distribution parameters, associated with a particular one of said plurality of users;~~
~~for the distribution of the periods of time when the device is active and a second set of~~
~~distribution parameters for the distribution of the periods of time the device is inactive;~~

~~predicting whether sufficient network resources exist to accommodate said request based~~
~~on a plurality of said estimated set of distribution parameters the first set of distribution~~
~~parameters and the second set of distribution parameters for each of said plurality of devices; and~~
allocating the network resources in accordance with said prediction.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting, from said network resource manager to said plurality of ~~users~~ devices, information indicative of the allocation of the network resources.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of allocating network resources comprises allocating network resources in a cellular telephone network and further wherein said plurality of ~~users~~ devices, comprise a corresponding plurality of cellular telephones.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing a preemption process to allow a high-priority ~~user~~ device to preempt service from a low-priority ~~user~~ device.

5. (New) A network resource manager for allocating network resources comprising:
a demand prediction processor operable to store for each of a plurality of devices coupled to the network resource manager a first set of distribution parameters associated with the

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distribution of the period of time when the device is active and a second set of distribution parameters associated with the distribution of the periods of time when the device is inactive, the demand prediction processor further operable to calculate, upon receiving a request for network access, an estimated probability of whether each of the plurality of devices will be active or inactive; and

a network allocator coupled to the demand processor, the network allocator operable to receive the estimated probability and to generate network resource allocation decisions based on the estimated probability.

6. (New) The network resource manager of claim 5, wherein the network resource allocation decisions are sent to each of the plurality of devices.

7. (New) The network resource manager of claim 5 wherein the network resource allocation decisions are stored in a decision history database coupled to the network allocator.